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COUNTRY <u>Germany (Soviet Zone)</u>	25X1	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC <u>Military Information from Oranienburg</u>		25X1	
EVALUATION <u>see below</u>	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1	
DATE OF CONTENT <u>6 to 22 November 1950</u>			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED <u>23 December 1950</u>	
REFERENCES		25X1	
PAGES <u>3</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u>1 - sketch on ditto</u>		
REMARKS			

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1. On 6 November 1950, all buildings of the Panzerschule on Bernauer-allee, Oranienburg (N 53/Z 67), which could be seen from the street, were occupied to capacity. The troops in the buildings were estimated at about 1,500. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, some of them with tank and artillery insignia. Seven groups, each of one officer and 30 MM wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, were seen leaving through the eastern gate, marching toward Oranienburg. About 20 tanks were seen in three sheds in the northern section of the installation. Motor vehicles

when entering the Panzerschule through the eastern gate. (1)

2. About 100 officers were quartered in two houses on the south side of Bernauerallee, about 200 meters east of the railroad overpass. Officers observed on their way from the billets to the Panzerschule wore tank insignia. About 200 additional officers, most of whom wore tank insignia, were billeted in two other buildings on the south side of Bernauerallee, just south of the road fork east of the Panzer-schule. (2)

3. The Leisse Stadt Settlement, formerly Heinkel Settlement, was occupied by about 600 troops. Most of the soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets and only a few red epaulets. Motor vehicles

in the billeting area. (3)

4. On 8 November, a column of about 50 officers and 500 unarmed MM marched into the Oranienburg castle. The MM wore new uniforms and were 10 or 19 years of age. After about two hours they left the castle and marched back to the barracks installations on the Oranienburg-Schnackenhagen road. Motor vehicles were identified at the barracks installations. (4)

5. On 7 November, a column of 200 to 250 MM, preceded by officers and a color guard carrying a furled flag, were seen in the street between

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the Stadtschloss (castle) and Bernauerstrasse, marching toward the camp. The officers and ~~all~~ wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. After about two and a half hours they were seen marching back to the castle. (5)

6. On 11 November, a great deal of activity was observed in the billeting area of the Panzer Kaserne, which is bordered by Berlinerallee and the Oranienburg-Germendorf railroad line. Most of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. About 20 trucks were parked in the billeting area. Their numbers could not be determined. Motor vehicles

in barracks traffic. Long wooden garages were under construction behind Thaelmannstrasse. Meals were prepared and served in the open. The barracks buildings were apparently being restored. In the area between the barracks buildings on Thaelmannstrasse and the railroad station, four building sites, each 8x15 meters and about 1 meter deep, were being excavated. (3)

7. On 16 November, a great deal of activity was observed in the billeting area of the Panzer Kaserne on Bernauerstrasse. About 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets were grouped around an officer. Near the installation, twelve squads of young soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen receiving instruction, digging fox-holes, and practicing camouflage.

(1)

8. The sentry in front of the Oranienburg castle wore red-bordered black epaulets. Motor vehicles there. (5)

9. Several large brick buildings, apparently troop quarters, were observed to be located on the south side of Thaelmannstrasse on 21 and 22 November. About 30 canvas-covered trucks were parked on Erzbergerstrasse, north of Thaelmannstrasse. Some of the canvas covers were removed on 22 November. Several buildings next to the school could not be identified. New, long wooden sheds, presumably garages, were adjacent to these buildings. About 100 trucks were parked in front of the sheds. Two large ribbons with AF insignia were suspended from the street front of the school building. Sentries at the entrance to the billeting area on Thaelmannstrasse wore red-bordered black epaulets and those standing guard at the cemetery wall wore blue epaulets. Motor vehicles were identified at the entrance to the buildings on Thaelmannstrasse. Truck was parked west of former Ernst Heinkelstrasse. A former factory, which was largely destroyed, was located at the south side of the extension of Ernst Thaelmannstrasse beyond a bridge over a brook. Sentries in front of the factory wore blue epaulets. Motor vehicles driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were identified. Fuel truck was observed several times hauling water from the factory to the airfield. (3)

Comments.

- (1) the Panzerschule, also called Panzer Kaserne, was occupied to about 75 percent of capacity by 1,200 troops.

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[redacted] The installation quarters elements of the 25th Tank Div.

- (2) The tank officers were either attending a course of instruction or were replacements temporarily billeted there.
- (3) The so-called Weisse Stadt is a settlement of long buildings situated along Ernst Thaelmannstrasse, Berliner Allee, and the Oranienburg-Germendorf-Kremmen railroad line. For location sketch, see Annex. An airfield is located south of the railroad line and west of the Oranienburg Canal. According to a report of August 1950, the airfield buildings in the northeastern section of the airfield and the Weisse Stadt Settlement had been placed off limits, forming one restricted area. The Heinkel Settlement proper is located west of the airfield and north of Leegebruch (swamp). Since the buildings of the Weisse Stadt Settlement may have previously quartered personnel of the Heinkel aircraft plant, it is possible that [redacted]

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[redacted] did not distinguish between the Weisse Stadt Settlement and the Heinkel Settlement. According to a report of 30 October 1950, [redacted] the Weisse Stadt Settlement quarters headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army and elements of the 25th Tank Div. [redacted]

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The motor vehicle [redacted] mentioned in the present report belonged to series of headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army. [redacted]

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[redacted] the billeting area of the Weisse Stadt Settlement as Panzer Kaserne on Berliner Allee and as restricted area on Berlinerstrasse. Since these [redacted] motor vehicle [redacted] of headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army from there, it can be stated with a fair degree of certainty that the Weisse Stadt Settlement quarters headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army.

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- (4) The Soviet quarters north of the Oranienburg-Schmachtenhagen-Bernau road, northeast of Lehnitz Lake, which partly consist of wooden barracks buildings, were last reported to be occupied by a tank unit in June 1949. The units which are quartered there, [redacted] include elements of the 25th Tank Div.

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- (5) [redacted] the Oranienburg Castle was occupied by 500 to 600 troops of units of the 25th Tank Div. [redacted]

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1 Annex: 1 - sketch on ditto.

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